

FEBRUARY PROGRAM

FEBRUARY 15, 1977

1915 Film "The Innocent Fair"

Sixty-two years ago--on February 20, 1915--the fairyland of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition opened along a two-mile area by the Bay at the northern edge of San Francisco. The buildings were made of "staff", a burlap and plaster mixture molded on wooden frames. This material allowed for a great variety of architectural expression ranging from Maybeck's Palace of Fine Arts to the large, glittering Tower of Jewels and a working model of the Panama Canal.

Mr. Jim O'Connor of San Jose will bring a film of this 1915 Exposition and show it for our enjoyment. The 28-minute movie will be enhanced by the collection of Fair memorabilia which Karl and Bronwen Heuer will bring to exhibit. The program will begin at 8:00 p.m. at the Lafayette School Auditorium. Plan to bring your family and friends!

NOTES ON EARLY LAFAYETTE PIONEERS---From Fern Powell Davis

Since the publication of "LaFayette, A Pictorial History" more information, documents and photos have come to light from descendents of early pioneers.

Mrs. Barbara Hale Gaddy of San Anselmo has sent to the archives chairman a D.A. R. geneology of William Speer Brown (1747-1832) who was the grandfather of Elam Brown. William was a resident of Massachusetts and was a soldier in the American Revolutionary War in 1775. One of William's sons, Thomas Brown, was the father of Elam and of Minerva Brown Hale. Minerva's son, Henry Myers Hale, came west with his Uncle Elam in 1846 at the age of thirteen years.

This same Henry Hale who died in Pacheco in 1923 was Barbara Gaddy's grandfather. Anyone interested in the Elam Brown geneology will find a copy in the historical files in the Lafayette Library. "Bits and pieces" of vital information such as the above are being added to the geneology.

Also, as a result of the publication of the book, Mrs. Edna Slayton has loaned to the Society photographs of her great grandparents, Mrs. Melissa Horham and Medford Gorham who were early residents of Lafayette. Mrs. Slayton relates that her great great grandfather, James Gorham was a schoolmate of Elam Brown.

NOVEMBER PROGRAM

As most entertaining and enlightening program was presented on November 30, 1976 by Mr. Bob Gross. We all enjoyed seeing examples of his fine collection of toys--there were excited responses as members of the audience recognized familiar old friends among Bob's collection. Many thanks to Bob Gross for sharing his collection and experiences with us!

BOOK SALES

As of January 18, 1977, 1216 copies of "LaFayette, A Pictorial History" had been sold or donated--just over 200 copies remain.

NEWS OF OTHER HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

Alice McNeil Russi will be speaking on the history of Lafayette to the Orinda Historical Society in March--the date is still to be set.

HISTORY ALL AROUND US

A special exhibit in the Great Hall of the Oakland Museum will run until March 6, 1977--"The American Farm" presents a record of American photography reflecting 200 years of our nation's agrarian experience. The farmer's changing relationship to his land and his utilization of technology are reflected in the photographs, implements, and machines which make up this exhibit. The exhibit has been organized by the California Historical Society.

SPECIAL THANKS

To Jane Sherman and Austin Sperry for their help with the sales of the Society's book. Jane handled mail orders while Austin took care of sales through local shops.

Also to the William Greuner's of Broadmoor Court, Lafayette who gave the Society a collection of newspaper clippings from 1949.

And to the Lafayette Sun for the gift of photographs from 1976.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS FOR 1977---From Sandy Levitt, Membership Chairman

It's that time of the year again when what helps make the Lafayette Historical Society continue its work is due! Last year was indeed an exciting and rewarding year both for our nation and city! "LaFayette, A Pictorial History" was a tremendous success... we look forward to exciting accomplishments in 1977.

At your earliest convenience, fill out the form below and mail it along with your dues in the enclosed envelope.

Thank you for your support!

Dues--\$5.00 Individual or Family

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Phone number _____

COTTON FIBER CONTENT